

Material Safety Data Sheet

Lethal Nerve Agent (GA)

Revised: 21 December 2004

Section I - General Information

Manufacturer's Address:

U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC)

ATTN: AMSRD-ECB-CB-CR

Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21010-5424

Business Phone: 410-436-4411 or 4414, Monday through Friday during the hours of 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM EDT

CAS Registry Numbers: 77-81-6

Chemical Name: Ethyl N, N-dimethylphosphoramidocyanidate

Trade Name and Synonyms:

Ethyl dimethylphosphoramidocyanidate

Dimethylaminoethoxy-cyanophosphine oxide

Dimethylamidoethoxyphosphoryl cyanide

Ethyl dimethylaminocyanophosphonate

Ethyl ester of dimethylphosphoroamidocyanidic acid

Ethyl phosphorodimethylamidocyanidate

GA

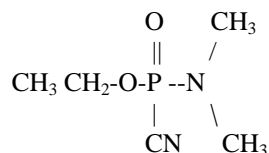
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Chemical Family: Organophosphorus compound

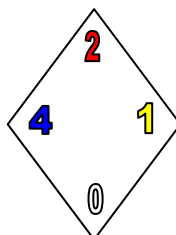
Molecular Formula and Chemical Structure:

C₅ H₁₁ N₂ O₂ P



NEPA 704 Signal:

Health - 4
Flammability - 2
Reactivity - 1
Special - 0



Section II - Ingredients

Ingredients/Name: GA

Percentage by Weight: 100%

Section III - Physical Data

Boiling Point: 248 °C (478 °F)

Vapor Pressure (torr): 0.057 @ 25 °C; 0.00475 @ 0 °C

Vapor Density (relative to air): 5.6

Solubility (g/100g solvent): Slightly soluble in water, 9.8 g GA/100g @ 0 °C; 7.2 g GA/100 g @ 20 °C. Readily soluble in common organic solvents.

Specific Gravity (H₂O=1g/mL@25 °C): 1.076

Freezing/Melting Point (°C): -50 °C

Liquid Density (g/mL): 1.0756 @ 25 °C

Volatility (mg/m³): 497 @ 25 °C; 45.2 @ 0 °C

Viscosity (CENTISTOKES): 2.18 @ 25 °C

Molecular Weight: 162.13

Appearance and Odor: Colorless to brown liquid, faintly fruity odor. Odorless in pure form.

Section IV - Fire and Explosion Data

Flashpoint: 78 °C (Closed Cup Method)

Flammability Limits (% By Volume): Not Available

Lower Explosive Limit: Not Available

Upper Explosive Limit: Not Available

Extinguishing Media: Water mist, fog, and foam, CO₂. Avoid using extinguishing methods that will cause splashing or spreading of the GA.

Special Fire Fighting Procedures: All persons not engaged in extinguishing the fire should be immediately evacuated from the area. Fires involving GA should be contained to prevent contamination to uncontrolled areas. GA will react with steam or water to produce toxic and corrosive vapors. When responding to a fire alarm in

buildings or areas containing GA, fire-fighting personnel should wear full fire-fighting protective clothing during chemical agent fire-fighting and fire rescue operations. Respiratory protection is required. Positive pressure, full-face piece, NIOSH-approved self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) will be worn where there is danger of oxygen deficiency and when directed by the fire chief or chemical accident/incident (CAI) operations officer. In cases where fire fighters are responding to a chemical accident/incident for rescue/reconnaissance purposes they will wear appropriate levels of protective clothing (See Section VIII).

Do not breathe fumes. Skin contact with nerve agents must be avoided at all times. Although the fire may destroy most of the agent, care must still be taken to assure the agent or contaminated liquids do not further contaminate other areas or sewers. Contact with liquid GA or vapors can be fatal.

Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards: Fires involving this chemical may result in the formation of hydrogen cyanide.

Section V - Health Hazard Data

Airborne Exposure Limits (AEL) ²:

Worker Population Limit (WPL) 8-hr TWA ¹ mg/m ³	STEL 15-min TWA ¹ mg/m ³	IDLH ¹ mg/m ³	General Population Limit (GPL) 12-hr TWA ¹ mg/m ³
0.00003	0.0001	0.1	0.000001

¹ These values can be found in the DA, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Installations and Environment memo, subject: Implementation Guidance Policy for New Airborne Exposures Limits for GB, GA, GD, GF, VX, H, HD, and HT, 18 June 2004.

² To date, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) have not promulgated a permissible exposure concentration for GA.

GA is not listed by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), or National Toxicology Program (NTP) as a carcinogen.

Routes of Entry: The routes of entry for nerve agents are inhalation and ingestion, as well as eye and skin contact.

Effects of Exposure: Nerve agents are readily absorbed and are hazardous through all routes of exposure. The most prominent physiological effects results from the inhibition of the ChE enzymes distributed throughout the nervous system. The result produces effects including miosis, rhinorrhea, bronchoconstriction, increased gastrointestinal motility, muscle fasciculations, weakness, flaccid paralysis, difficulty in concentrating, anxiety, insomnia, restlessness, depression of the respiratory center, convulsions and death.

Signs and Symptoms: The onset of the signs and symptoms following exposure to nerve agents may occur within seconds, minutes, or hours, depending upon concentration, dosage, and route of entry, as well as the type and physical state of the nerve agent.

Nerve agents pose primarily a vapor hazard to the unprotected worker. Early, mild signs and symptoms of vapor exposure include miosis, conjunctival injection, pain behind the eyes, dimness or blurred vision, rhinorrhea, excessive salivation and chest tightness.

Moderate signs and symptoms of vapor exposure may include mild signs and symptoms of exposure plus: increased shortness of breath, coughing, wheezing, voluminous bronchorrhea, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

Severe signs and symptoms of vapor exposure may include moderate signs and symptoms of exposure plus: generalized weakness or fasciculations/twitching, loss of consciousness (within seconds), convulsions (within minutes), severe respiratory distress, flaccid paralysis, apnea and respiratory failure.

Effects from liquid percutaneous exposures to nerve agents are slower to develop and slower to reach their peak when compared to vapor exposures of the eyes or respiratory tract. Mild signs and symptoms of liquid nerve agent skin exposure include localized sweating at the site of exposure and fine muscle fasciculations/twitching. (**NOTE:** Miosis is not an early sign of liquid skin exposure. This is only true for exposures that include contact with airborne vapor with the eyes. In cases of nerve agent exposure not involving vapor contact with the eyes, miosis may be one of the last effects to occur. In such cases, the dosages of liquid exposure which produces miosis are not significantly different than lethal doses.)

Moderate signs and symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, and feeling of general weakness.

Severe signs and symptoms include generalized fasciculations and twitching, respiratory secretions, unconsciousness, convulsions, flaccid muscle paralysis, apnea and respiratory failure.

Toxicity Values:

Vapor (Inhalation/Ocular)¹

ECt50 (Mild) = 1 mg-min/m³ ^{2}

ECt50 (Severe) ³ = 50 mg-min/m³

LCt50 = 70 mg-min/m³

Vapor (Percutaneous)^{4,5}

ECt50 (Threshold) ⁶ = 2000 mg-min/m³

ECt50 (Severe) ³ = 12000 mg-min/m³

LCt50 = 15000 mg-min/m³

Liquid (Percutaneous)

ED50 = 900 mg/70 kg man

LD50 = 1500 mg/70 kg man

¹ Estimates for inhalation vapor exposure are based on a minute volume (MV) of 15 liters. The effective dosages will be the higher for a lower MV and lower for a higher MV. Also, the exposure time is 2 minutes.

² Based on recent studies estimates for this value, dosage may actually be 0.4 mg-min/m³.

³ Severe effects may also include death.

⁴ Personnel are masked.

⁵ Values for percutaneous vapor are for moderate temperatures (85 °F and below). The effective dosages for hot temperatures (85 °F and above) will be less by at least a factor of 2.

⁶ Threshold refers to a slight ChE inhibition.

Emergency and First Aid Procedures:

Prior to rendering first aid, take steps for self protection such as donning a protective mask and other protective equipment. **Immediately** remove individual from contaminated area. Decontaminate the individual as indicated below.

Vapor Exposure: Vapor exposed nerve agent casualties should be decontaminated by removing all clothing in a clean air environment and shampooing or rinsing the hair to prevent vapor off gassing.

Liquid Skin Exposure: Leave area of contamination as quickly as possible. Hold breath until respiratory protective mask is donned. Remove clothing in a clean air environment and wash the skin surface and hair in warm

or hot water at least three times. The rapid physical removal of a chemical agent is essential. Scrubbing of exposed skin with a stiff brush or bristles is discouraged, because skin damage may occur and may increase absorption of agent. Use liquid soap (dispose of container after use and replace), copious amounts of water, and mild to moderate friction with a single-use sponge or washcloth in the first and second washes. The third wash should be a rinse with copious amounts of warm or hot water. Shampoo can be used to wash the hair. If warm or hot water is not available, but cold water is, use cold water. Do not delay decontamination to obtain warm water. Two permissible alternative skin decontaminants include the M291 Skin Decontaminating Kit (SDK) and a 0.5% sodium hypochlorite solution. (**NOTE:** The use of the M291 SDK and/or 0.5% sodium hypochlorite on skin is appropriate in situations where soap and water may not be as efficacious in physically removing particular types of nerve agents, such as those used in certain research and development laboratories. Neither soap and water, 0.5% sodium hypochlorite or the M291 SDK have been shown to be more efficacious than the other for physically removing every type of nerve agent from the skin.) If used, the 0.5% sodium hypochlorite should be applied with mild to moderate friction, with a single-use sponge or washcloth in the first and second washes. The third wash should be a rinse to remove any residual sodium hypochlorite with copious amounts of warm or hot water.

Eye Contact: **Immediately** leave area of contamination and begin flush eyes, mucous membranes, or open wounds with sterile saline or water. Flush the eyes immediately with sterile saline or water by tilting the head to the side, pulling the eyelids apart with gloved fingers and pouring slowly into the eyes. A Morgan lens may also be used for continuous eye irrigation. As soon as possible, don respiratory protective mask and leave area of contamination. Although miosis (pinpointing of the pupils) may be an early sign of agent exposure, an injection will not be administered when miosis is the only sign present. Instead, the individual will be taken **Immediately** to a medical treatment facility for observation.

Ingestion: Do not induce vomiting. First symptoms are likely to be gastrointestinal. **Immediately** administer Nerve Agent Antidote Kit, Mark I. Seek medical attention **Immediately**. **Do not handle vomited material to avoid further contamination.**

Nerve Emergency Treatment: An individual who has received a known nerve agent exposure and has progressive signs and symptoms of nerve agent exposure may receive up to three sets of the Nerve Agent Antidote Kit (Mark I). Injections may be administered at 5 to 20 minute intervals; no more than three (3) injector sets will be given unless directed by medical personnel. If severe signs of nerve agent exposure appear [signs and symptoms of moderate exposure, plus generalized weakness or fasciculation/twitching, loss of consciousness (within seconds), convulsions (within minutes), severe respiratory distress, flaccid paralysis and apnea], immediately administer, in rapid succession, all three sets of the Mark I. In addition, a record will be maintained of all injections given.

Inhalation: If breathing is difficult, administer oxygen. If breathing has stopped, give artificial respiration. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation should be used when approved mask-bag or oxygen delivery systems are not available. Do not use mouth-to-mouth resuscitation when facial contamination is present. Seek medical attention **Immediately**.

NOTE: The Office of the Surgeon General is responsible the medical guidance provided in this MSDS. Questions concerning medical guidance provided in the this MSDS may be addressed to HQDA (DASG-PPM-NC), 5109 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3258.

Section VI - Reactivity Data

Stability: When stabilized with 5% chlorobenzene, GA can be stored in steel container for several years at ambient temperatures. The degree of stability decreases with elevated temperatures and decomposition will occur in 6 months at 50 °C and 3 month at 65 °C.

Decomposition Temperature: Decomposes completely at 150 °C after about 3 to 3 ¼ hours.

Rate of Hydrolysis: $t_{1/2}$ = 8.5 hr @ 20 °C and pH 7. Reacts slowly in water but is fairly rapid with strong acids and

alkalis with self-buffering at pH 4 to 5; autocatalytic below pH 4.

Hydrolysis Products: Hydrogen cyanide (HCN), dimethylaminocyanophosphonic acid and other products.

Action on Metals and Other Materials: Corrosion rate of steel on crude GA with 5 to 20% chlorobenzene is 0.000034 in/month @ 65 °C.

Hazardous Polymerization: Not available.

Section VII - Spill, Leak, And Disposal Procedures

Steps To Be Taken In Case Material Is Released Or Spilled: If leaks or spills of GA occur, only personnel in full protective clothing will remain in the area (See Section VIII). In case of personnel contamination see Section V for emergency and first aid instructions.

Recommended Field Procedures: Spills must be contained by covering with vermiculite, diatomaceous earth, clay, fine sand, sponges, and paper or cloth towels. Decontaminate with copious amounts of aqueous sodium hydroxide solution (a minimum 10 wt.%). Scoop up all material and place in a DOT approved container. The decontaminate solution must be treated with excess bleach to destroy the HCN formed during the hydrolysis. Cover the contents with decontaminating solution as above. After sealing, decontaminate the exterior and labeled according to EPA and DOT regulations. All leaking containers will be over packed with sorbent (e.g. vermiculite) placed between the interior and exterior containers. Decontaminate and label according to EPA and DOT regulations. Dispose of material according to Federal, state, and local laws. Conduct general area monitoring to confirm that the atmospheric concentrations do not exceed the STEL (See Sections V and VIII).

If 10 wt.% aqueous sodium hydroxide is not available then the following decontaminants may be used instead and are listed in the order of preference: Sodium Carbonate and Super tropical Bleach Slurry (STB).

Recommended Laboratory Procedures: A minimum of 56 grams of decon solution is required for each gram of GA. The decontamination solution is agitated while GA is added and the agitation is maintained for at least one hour. The resulting solution is allowed to react for 24 hours. At the end of 24 hours, the solution must be titrated to a pH between 10 and 12. After completion of the 24-hour period, the decontamination solution must be treated with excess bleach (2.5 mole OCl/mole GA) to destroy the CN formed during the hydrolysis. Scoop up all material and clothing. Place all material in a DOT approved container. Cover the contents with decontaminating solution as above. After sealing, decontaminate the exterior of the container and label according to EPA and DOT regulations. All leaking containers will be over packed with sorbent placed between the interior and exterior containers. Decontaminate and label according to EPA and DOT regulations. Dispose of contents and decontaminate according to Federal, State, and local laws. Conduct general area monitoring to confirm that the atmospheric concentrations do not exceed the STEL (See Sections V and VIII).

Waste Disposal Method: Open pit burning or burying of GA or items containing or contaminated with GA in any quantity is prohibited. Waste GA and associated decontamination solutions may be Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulated hazardous wastes due to a State listing of the chemical agent, or the characteristics of the waste, to include contaminants. An evaluation of the Federal and State waste disposal regulations must be conducted to determine the appropriate disposal method.

Section VIII - Special Protection Information

Respiratory Protection:

Unprotected Workers:

<u>Concentration (mg/m³)</u>	<u>Time Limits</u>
Less than or equal to 0.00003 ¹	8 hours
Up to or less than 0.00006	4 hours ²

Protected Workers:

Type of Respiratory Protection Worn (based on monitoring results):

1. M40 Military Mask, CBRN NIOSH Approved Respirator

<u>Concentration (mg/m³)</u>	<u>Time Limits</u>
Not greater than 0.0015	Up to 8 hours ³
Greater than 0.0015 and less than 0.002	Up to 6 hours
Greater than 0.002 and less than 0.003	Up to 4 hours
Not greater than 0.005	Up to 15 minutes ⁴

2. Air Supply Line with Full Face Respirator

<u>Concentration (mg/m³)</u>	<u>Time Limits⁶</u>
0.00003 to 0.1 ⁵	Time limit will be kept at a minimum to perform the operation, and will be dictated by the local Heat Stress Program for personal protective equipment and clothing

3. Air Supply Line with Full Face Respirator and Auxiliary Self-contained

Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), or SCBA

<u>Concentration (mg/m³)</u>	<u>Time Limits⁶</u>
Greater than 0.1	These concentrations should be expected only in emergency situations. Operations should not be conducted at these concentrations.

¹ As an 8-hr TWA average.

² Maximum continuous time at this concentration. Equivalent to 8-hr TWA. Source: Implementation Guidance Policy for Revised Airborne Exposures Limits for GB, GA, GD, GF, VX, H, HD, and HT, Dept of Army, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army Installations and Environment, 18 June 2004. See Table 2.

³ Canister for M40 Mask must be changed out every 6 hours of use.

⁴ Based on APF of 50 times the STEL (0.0001 mg/m³), which is a 15 minute TWA. Only 4 excursions to this concentration with a 60 minute interval between each one is allowed during an 8 hour workday.

⁵ The Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health Value.

⁶ For SCBA wearers, time limit is constrained by life of the air cylinder (maximum of 30 to 45 minutes). For Air Supply wearers, time limits should be kept to a minimum. Should use of the auxiliary SCBA be necessary, time limit will be constrained by the life of the breathing air cylinder, and egress from the area must be performed before its expiration.

Ventilation:

Local exhaust: Mandatory. Must be filtered or scrubbed to limit exit concentrations. Air emissions will meet local, state and federal regulations.

Special: Chemical laboratory hoods will have an average inward face velocity of 100 linear feet per minute (lfpm) +/- 20% with the velocity at any point not deviating from the average face velocity by more than 20%. Existing laboratory hoods will have an inward face velocity of 150 lfpm +/- 20%. Laboratory hoods will be located such that cross-drafts do not exceed 20% of the inward face velocity. A visual performance test using smoke-producing devices will be performed in assessing the ability of the hood to contain agent GA.

Other: Recirculation or exhaust air from chemical areas is prohibited. No connection between chemical areas and other areas through ventilation system is permitted. Emergency backup power is necessary. Hoods should be tested at least semiannually or after modification or maintenance operations. Operations should be performed 20 centimeters inside hood face.

Protective Gloves: Butyl Rubber Glove M3 and M4
Norton, Chemical Protective Glove Set

Eye Protection: At a minimum chemical goggles will be worn. For splash hazards use goggles and face shield.

Other Protective Equipment: For laboratory operations, wear lab coats, gloves and have mask readily accessible. In addition, daily clean smocks, foot covers, and head covers will be required when handling contaminated lab animals. In the case of a spill, the minimum protective clothing should be Level B after the site has been evaluated, otherwise Level A.

Monitoring: Available monitoring equipment for agent GA is the M8/M9 detector paper, detector ticket, M256/M256A1 kits, bubbler, Depot Area Air Monitoring System (DAAMS), Automated Continuous Air Monitoring System (ACAMS), Real-Time Monitor (RTM), Demilitarization Chemical Agent Concentrator (DCAC), M8/M43, M8A1/M43A1, CAM-M1, Hydrogen Flame Photometric Emission Detector (HYFED), the Miniature Chemical Agent Monitor (MINICAM), and the Real Time Analytical Platform (RTAP).

Real-time, low-level monitors (with alarm) are required for GA operations. In their absence, an Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH) atmosphere must be presumed. Laboratory operations conducted in appropriately maintained and alarmed engineering controls require only periodic low-level monitoring.

Section IX - Special Precautions

Precautions To Be Taken In Handling and Storing: When handling agents, the buddy system will be incorporated. No smoking, eating, or drinking in areas containing agents is permitted. Containers should be periodically inspected for leaks, (either visually or using a detector kit). Stringent control over all personnel practices must be exercised. Decontaminating equipment will be conveniently located. Exits must be designed to

permit rapid evacuation. Chemical showers, eyewash stations, and personal cleanliness facilities must be provided. Wash hands before meals and shower thoroughly with special attention given to hair, face, neck, and hands using plenty of soap and water before leaving at the end of the workday.

Other Precautions: Agent containers will be stored in a single containment system within a laboratory hood or in a double containment system.

For additional information see "AR 385-61, The Army Toxic Chemical Agent Safety Program," "DA Pam 385-61, Toxic Chemical Agent Safety Standards," and "DA Pam 40-8, Occupational Health Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Occupational Exposure to Nerve Agents GA, GB, GD, and VX"; and DA Implementation Guidance Policy for New Airborne Exposures Limits for GB, GA, GD, GF, VX, H, HD, and HT dated 18 June 2004.

Section X - Transportation Data

NOTE: Forbidden for transport other than via military (Technical Escort Unit) transport according to 49 CFR Part 173.7(b), DOD 4500.9-R and AR 50-6.

Proper Shipping Name: Toxic liquids, organic, n.o.s. (Ethyl dimethylphosphoramidocyanidate)

UN ID Number: UN2810

DOT Hazard Class: 6.1, Packing Group I, Inhalation Hazard Zone A

DOT Label: Poison Inhalation Hazard or Toxic Inhalation Hazard. See 49 CFR 172.400a(a)(3) for exceptions to unit packaging labeling and 173.7(b) for other exceptions when material is transported by Technical Escort Units.

NOTE: "Poison" and "Toxic" are used interchangeably for all markings, labels and placards for continental US transportation. "Toxic" is required for international transportation.

DOT Marking: Toxic liquids, organic, n.o.s. (Ethyl dimethylphosphoramidocyanidate) UN 2810, Inhalation Hazard Zone A

DOT Placard: Poison Inhalation Hazard or Toxic Inhalation Hazard

Emergency Accident Precautions and Procedures: See Sections IV, VII and VIII.

Precautions To Be Taken In Transportation: Motor vehicles will be placarded regardless of quantity. Drivers will be given full information regarding shipment and conditions in case of an emergency. AR 50-6 deals specifically with the shipment of chemical agents. Shipment of agents will be escorted in accordance with AR 740-32.

The Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC), Department of the Army believes that the data contained herein are actual and are the results of the tests conducted by ECBC experts. The data are not to be taken as a warranty or representation for which the Department of the Army or ECBC assumes legal responsibility. They are offered solely for consideration. Any use of this data and information contained in this MSDS must be determined by the user to be in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.